MONTEREY NEWS

June 1999
VOLUME XXIX · Number 6

The Town

Annual Town Meeting and Election. On Saturday, May 1, at 9:30 a.m., the Town of Monterey held its annual town meeting and election of Town Officers at the Firehouse. There were twenty-six articles for consideration, including the approval of the school budget, passage of guidelines for a longevity award for town employees, and revisions to the town's sign bylaws.

What follows is a brief report on the results of the elections and articles that bore the most discussion:

The meeting began with a moment of silence honoring those town officials who passed away since the last annual town meeting: Robert Hardisty, Harold Green, Robert Thieriot, and Greta Cherneff.

Election of Town Officers. Polls opened at 9:35 a.m. and closed at 6 p.m. In the only contested election Jonathan E. Sylbert won a seat on the Planning Board for 2 years. Other election results are as follows: Dean Amidon, Board of Appeals, 5 years; James H. Bracken, Board of Assessors, 3 years; Jane A. Thorn, Cemetery Committee, 3 years; Stanley Ross, Finance Committee, 3 years; Laurie P. Shaw, Library Trustee, 3 years; Linda E. Thorpe, Library Trustee, 3 years; Mark J.J. Makuc, Moderator, 1 year; Denise E. Andrus, Park Commission, 3 years; Marta E. Makuc, Park Commission, 2 years; Daniel A. Andrus, Planning Board, 5 years; Fred Chapman, Select Board, 3 years; and Roger C. Tryon, Tree Warden, 1 year.

Town Budget. The town operating budget of $1,708,795.00 was approved, unanimously, with no amendment after discussion on several points. Bank charges were questioned and the Treasurer explained some of the details and noted her ongoing attempts to keep the charges to a minimum. The salary allocation for the position of Town Secretary was questioned.

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I love Monterey!

Town Secretary. The Select Board addressed questions about the range and number of secretaries employed by the town. They expressed their intent to consolidate secretarial duties and find a highly qualified person who may take on additional responsibilities. They also made public their intent to look seriously at changing both the job description and title of the position and cited their need for flexibility in salary range in order to find the most qualified person for the job.

School Budget. Jed Lipsky and Superintendent Cooper both spoke at length on the school budget. Jed received a standing ovation in honor of his service to the town and region on the School Board. Mr. Lipsky spoke fondly of his time on the Board and summarized the difficult but successful process of negotiation and renewal that has gone on in the district over the past three years. He appreciated Superintendent Cooper's work and vision and encouraged people to step forward to fill this important position on the School Board. He noted that he did not resign his post but would not accept reappointment, citing family responsibilities.

Longevity Award Plan. The proposed longevity award plan for town employees was debated at some length after a move to pass over the issue was defeated. The select Board offered clarification on details of the plan and answered concerns about compensation for longevity versus performance. An amendment was offered, changing the wording of the award plan from "shall receive" to "may receive," giving the Select Board discretion in choosing to grant these awards from

year to year. The article was passed as amended: Yes 53, No 22.

Sign Bylaws. The Planning Board presented new signage bylaws which bore extensive questioning. Members of the Planning Board answered questions about setbacks, traveled ways, and size and number of signs permitted in residential areas. Their efforts were appreciated and Maggie Leonard's contribuition was noted. New bylaws were passed with the only amendment being that "The Select Board may grant size waivers for temporary signs."

Other Articles. Most other articles were passed unanimously with minimal discussion; they included the purchase of several pieces of equipment for the Fire Department, including an ice and water rescue vehicle and an air compressor, emergency management equipment.

Other News. Muriel Lazzarini was unanimously chosen as Select Board chair until the next Town Election.

Carla Duby was appointed as an officer of the Monterey Police Department. Ms. Duby appears well qualified for the job. She has extensive experience both in law enforcement, locally and in Broward County, Florida, and in human services and counseling. Officer Duby's education and training include studies at the Western Massachusetts Law Enforcement Academy, and training in addictions counseling.

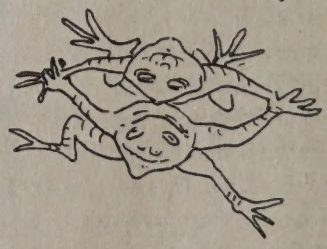
This mix of counseling and law enforcement skills will serve her well in her work in the community and we welcome her on board.

On Monday, May 10, the Select Board considered bids on new highway trucks and equipment. Upon receiving news that Ford is not accepting any more new orders for Ford 450 trucks this year, the Board voted to reject all offers and await the new pricing structure from Ford. The equipment bids were accepted and are in the works.

At 8:30 p.m. on May 17, an informational meeting on the Brewer Pond nature trail was held at the Town Hall. Abutters to the pond were invited to get information about the proposed trail. Those in attendance expressed their concerns about the impact on the environment, wildlife, and the neighborhood if the trail around the pond is improved. A fruitful and in-depth discussion resulted in some compromise and in all parties feeling that their positions had been heard.

Cultural Council Needs Members. Desperately seeking dedicated, energetic, creative, organized, responsible citizens to join the Monterey Cultural Council. Duties include reviewing grant applications and the administration of grants for cultural activities that benefit the Town of Monterey. Good clerical and organizational skills are helpful. Anyone interested in more information and participating in this gratifying and important work should contact Anita Carroll-Weldon at The Bidwell House.

— Amy Goldfarb



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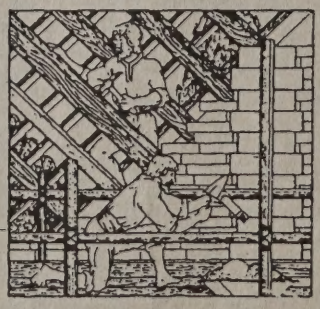

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or "I Love" a Parade

The community will celebrate "I Love Monterey Day 1999" on Saturday, July 17, with a full day of festivities, including an afternoon parade. The theme for this year's celebration is BELLS. We will ring in the newly restored Meeting House and its fetching bell tower with a Parade of Bells, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Come in costume: Be a bell, a belle, a bell curve, or a bellwether. Be Bellerophon, Belle Star, belladonna, a Beluga whale. Ride a bike with a bike bell. Dance along wearing ankle bells. Be bats in the belfry, a bellhop, a bell jar, a bell pepper, a belwort, a belletrist.

You get the idea. So belly up. But please don't be bellicose.

At 3:00 p.m. paraders will line up along Sandisfield Road at the intersection of Route 23. At 3:30 we will parade to the Firehouse pavillion with a brief stop in the center of town for the tolling of the Meeting House bell. Call Ellen Pearson (528-1988) to register, or just show up as a bell flower!

Caution: There will be animals in the parade. Take care not to agitate the horses, cows, goats, or any other volatile creature (especially the *Monterey News* editor) with your clangers. We will position skittish animals at the end of the procession so that the tolling of the Meeting House bell and the excitement of the crowd will not frighten them. Be respectful of our noble and nervous animal friends.

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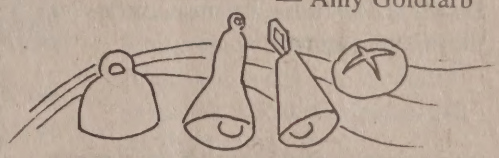
When does the parade get here?

In addition to the parade, a full day of activities is scheduled, including a basketball tournament, a book sale at the Library, a hike along the Brewer Pond Nature Trail, a display on the history of bells at the Knox Trail Museum, a homestead garden demonstration at The Bidwell House, music at the gazebo, food prepared by Gould Farm at the Firehouse pavilion, a performance by the Gould Farm Players, a silent auction, and a dance organized by Karl Finger. The activities will continue on Sunday, July 18, with the annual Knox Trail Run, preceded by the Kid's Fun Run, and sand castle building at the town beach.

Look for the complete schedule in the July *Monterey News*.

— Amy Goldfarb



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For Information and Assistance:

Judy Hayes	528-1874
MaryKate Jordan	528-5557

Piecemakers Update

As our deadline approached, we got down to the proverbial last-ditch stand, but even that was fun. One of our stitching sessions at The Bidwell House in May included a serenade from Vince Floriani, who sometimes sang while he played his banjo, and Tom Weldon, who accompanied Vince on the spoons and mouth harp.

Now *Stars in the Garden,* the quilt we began to plan last August, is ready to benefit The Bidwell House. Raffle tickets are now on sale. As Walter might comment from the post office window, they're only $2 apiece, or 6 for $10.

Folks who attended the May 30 Bidwell House Summer Evening Fundraiser saw the quilt on its public debut. It will be on display at the museum and elsewhere through the summer, and will be raffled on Columbus Day weekend.

In the meanwhile, if you catch a glimpse of a breathaking bit of blue and white in your travels around Monterey and South County, take a second look. It's probably *Stars in the Garden.* If you want to be sure, you can double-check on July 17, when you can see the quilt and purchase your raffle tickets as part of "I Love Monterey Day." On behalf of The Bidwell House, catch you during the summer!

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Tom Weldon tends the April charcoal burn at The Bidwell House.

New Marlborough/ Monterey School News

Ask any of our school-age children and they will tell you without hesitation that there are only 22 more days of school. These last few weeks have an energy and momentum all their own. Some of that energy is being directed to two gardening projects at NMC. The once-grassy border along the entrance walkway to NMC is now a perennial and herb garden. The genesis of this project began with my daughter, Dinah. From that initial conversation grew the idea of a lasting gift from the class of 2007 in the form of a garden that could be enjoyed by all who enter NMC for many years to come. The ground was prepared—thanks for your help, Dinah, Catie, Emily, Katie, and Rick. Fourth graders brought in plants or started seeds. Ward's Nursery gave a generous donation of plants. With Mrs. Lampman's and Mrs. Pottle's help, the students mapped the garden (now you know where landscape architects get their start!) and planted accordingly. (Thank you Mrs. Lampman for being on-site coordinator.) The finished garden will be presented on Fourth Grade Recognition Night.

The vegetable garden at NMA is in its planning stages. Each year there is a theme. One year it was the Three Sisters (corn, beans, and squash). This year it will be a heritage garden. The hope is to identify garden plants that reflect the variety of family backgrounds present at NMC.

While researching your family roots don't forget to write down your most famous family recipe. The PTA is planning a cookbook as its major fundraiser for 2000. Recipes and the stories behind them are most welcome.

MCAS Part Deux: There was another round of testing for grades 4, 8, and 10 in May.

— Debbie Mielke

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The Bidwell House

The Bidwell House has planned a summer and fall schedule of educational and entertaining events, which will interest everyone in the community from families with young children to grandparents, from antique collectors to athletes.

Guided hikes, historic animal husbandry demonstrations, an embroidery workshop and needlework exhibit, gardening workshops and heirloom tomato tasting, the Annual Folk Concert and Colonial Encampment, and even an old-fashioned fall festival are all planned for this year. All this plus guided tours of the beautiful eighteenth-century parsonage replete with the best collection of eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century high country furnishings in the Berkshires. The tours also impart an enormous amount of information about the history of our community.

This is all happening right here in Monterey so please come and enjoy The Bidwell House this summer and fall—and bring your houseguests. They are sure to enjoy this unique and intimate experience of early New England.

The first of our summer educational programs, *Changes in the Landscape,* will be offered on Saturday, June 19, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. This program is a lecture and walking tour exploring evidence of human intervention in a seemingly untouched natural landscape. We will trace the changes made by Native American hunters and farmers, by European settlers pursuing farming and forest trades, and by our post-agrarian society. Learn to see what the woods reveal about the history of the Berkshires. The fifth in the series of programs funded by the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, Changes in the Landscape is offered free to all.

The *Third Annual Colonial Encampment* is scheduled for Saturday, June 26, from 11:00 to 4:00 and Sunday, June 27 from 11:00 to 3:00. The Encampment is an excellent experience in "living history," with trained interpreters recreating life around the battles of the American Revolution. During the war, families would follow the battles and set up camp to care for the soldiers. Women and children of all ages comprised the camp followers.

ANITA CARROLL-WELDON

Step back in time and and experience camp life of the American Revolution at the Colonial Encampment at The Bidwell House on June 26 and 27.

This camp experience is authentically presented with accurate reproductions of tents, camp gear, cooking equipment, clothing, uniforms and weapons. Throughout the weekend visitors can walk through the campsites and visit with the soldiers and their families. On both Saturday and Sunday, a narrated battle skirmish and a clothing presentation will be offered. These narrations, with question and answer periods, are a wealth of information which really bring alive the ordeals people experienced in that time period, as well as during the war. The Encampment magically transforms The Bidwell House property and really takes you back to life in the eighteenth century.

This is a fascinating and fun program for the entire family. Admission is $3 for adults, $1 for children and free for museum members.

The Bidwell House has job openings for volunteers for the summer and fall season. Tasks include giving house tours, gardening, helping with events, and computer and general office work. Doing volunteer work makes a positive difference. The museum really counts on volunteers to be able to offer this excellent historic resource to the community. Plus your efforts, your hours spent volunteering will bring you a lifetime of fulfillment. For information please call 413/528-6888.

The Bidwell House is open for house tours Tuesday through Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

— Anita Carroll-Weldon

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Eagle Fund Announces First Grants

The Eagle Fund, an endowment fund developed to sustain the level of excellence in the Southern Berkshire Regional School District, announced that its first grants have been awarded. The grants support programs from elementary to high school levels.

"Because the endowment is in a start-up phase, we have limited the granting total this cycle to $1,500," said Grant Committee Chair Charles Ferris. "We do believe that these grants will have a significant impact on the student community. Knowing that the resource is available has inspired teachers and community members to come up with ideas for projects that go beyond the standard curriculum." The mission of the Eagle Fund is to develop a significant endowment fund that can generate private resources to augment the public effort in the SBRSD. So far, almost $100,000 has been raised for the fund.

The seven grants awarded this cycle are:

Donna Leep and Laura McLeod, South Egremont Elementary School: $500 awarded for Leap and Learn, ten sessions of "teaching through dance."

Laura Ponkos, Anne Kennedy, Peggy Muskrat, and Pat Poulos, fifth-grade teachers, Undermountain Elementary School: $190.90 awarded for the creation of a mural map of the United States on the basketball court as part of the fifth grade's study of regions of the U.S.

Anthony Holston and Jennifer Seery, MAP Program Teachers: $105 awarded for the Middle School Alternative Program for seventh and eighth graders, specifically for "Adventure Based Counseling" and equipment for low ropes course.

Susan Andersen, kindergarten/first grade teacher, Undermountain Elementary School: $100 granted for the creation of a children's board game called Speed Bumps and Potholes.

Bill Dunsay, fourth-grade teacher, Undermountain Elementary School: $50 awarded to purchase a game that will help students with social and emotional problems gain self-esteem.

Joan Powers, Librarian, Undermountain Elementary School: $300 granted for the purchase of fifty historical fiction titles for elementary students.

Peggy Reeves, art teacher, Mount Everett Regional High School: $245 granted for the cost of a photographer to work with fourteen high school students on infrared photography.

The next deadline for receipt of applications is October 1, 1999.

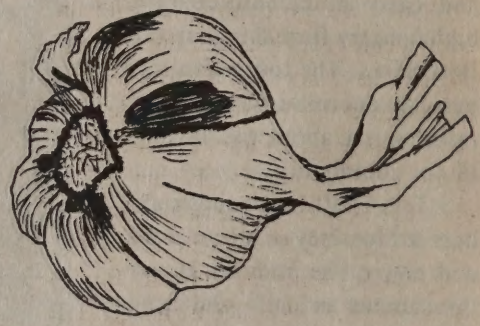
The Eagle Fund is a fund of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. The Foundation serves Berkshire, Dutchess, Columbia, and Litchfield Counties by grantmaking, developing community endowments, providing technical assistance to donors and non-profit organizations, and convening community leadership. For more information, or to make a contribution to the Eagle Fund, please call (800) 969-2823.

— Maeve O'Dea

Free Museum Passes at Monterey Library

Passes that will admit up to four people free to the Norman Rockwell Museum and the Berkshire Museum are available for circulation at the Monterey Library. We hope that our patrons will take advantage of this opportunity to visit two great museums. The passes are good any day that the museums are open and can be recirculated throughout the year. As a bonus the Rockwell Museum pass includes a 10% discount at the museum gift shop. Please come to the library for more information.

— Anne Makuc



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What Do We Need to Live?

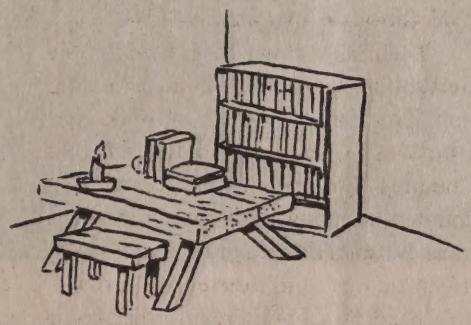
As a member of the group called Bread for the World, I have been introduced again to the Biblical concept of Jubilee. In Leviticus 25 the jubilee year is marked by three chief features: First, the land is to lie fallow. Second, all landed property that has been sold is to revert to its original owners, the families that received it when the land was apportioned by lot after the conquest (Joshua 13.21). Third, Hebrew slaves are to receive their liberty. (*The Torah: A Modern Commentary*, edited by W. Gunther Plaut. pp. 941, 942.)

Although it is unlikely the specifics of Leviticus 25 were ever practiced, the writer did not create them out of nothing. Israelite tradition laid great stress on the retention of family and tribal holdings. Prophets bitterly attacked the trend toward the concentration of landed wealth in the hands of a few.

Today we are confronted with an ever widening gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots". Statistics can be numbing, but they serve to provide perspective. One, for example, reveals that out of the approximately 6 billion people who inhabit the earth, the richest 20 percent account for 86 percent of private consumption, while the poorest 20 percent must make do with a meager 1.3 percent. The world's richest individuals—225 people, of whom 60 are U.S. citizens—have total assets of over one trillion dollars, equal to the annual income of the poorest 47 percent of the entire world population. ("Kofi Annan's Astonishing Facts", *New York Times*, September 27, 1998.)

Gunther Plaut continues his commentary in *The Torah:* "Today we are all keenly aware of the evils and dangers inherent in a society where unconscionable wealth and unbearable poverty exist side by side and where the urge for immediate profit threatens the destruction of the environment" (p. 944). According to Bread for the World, one way to overcome this disparity is to lobby Congress and the President to provide debt relief for poverty reduction throughout the world.

Another way to approach this issue is to examine our personal life style. I often hear myself saying: I have so much stuff! What am I doing with all this? Guilt begins to creep in, and I wonder—How do I stop from being overwhelmed? Guilt has gotten a bum rap. All it does (or should do) is serve to remind us that something is out of balance in our life. I look at the clothes I have hanging in the closet or folded in the bureau and say to myself—I can only wear one pair of pants and one shirt at a time. So why do I insist on having so many clothes? And so on up the line. How many television sets and radios do we need to watch or listen to? How many toys, boats, bicycles, skis, snowmobiles, etc., do we have to have? How many houses do we need to live in? How much money is enough?



Owning and possessing are apart of the dynamic. And possessing is entangled with control. And controlling is intimately connected to our personal mortality. Each one of us will die. We cannot prevent it. It is beyond our control. What we need, to live well, lies outside the need to possess. Which brings us face to face with who we are—pilgrims on a journey, as this Chassidic story illustrates:

> In the last century, a tourist from the States visited the famous Polish rabbi Hafez Hayyim.
>
> He was astonished to see that the rabbi's home was only a simple room filled with books. The only furniture was a table and a bench.
>
> "Rabbi, where is your furniture?" asked the tourist.
>
> "Where is yours?" replied Hafez.
>
> "Mine? But I'm only a visitor here."
>
> "So am I," replied the rabbi.
>
> (*Soul Food*, edited by Jack Kornfield and Christina Feldman)

It appears to me that our living has more to do with letting go than with controlling, possessing, and accumulating. It is one of the great paradoxes of life.

— Keith Snow

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Solid Waste Committee News

Transfer Station Refurbishment: The bidding process for the refurbishment of the transfer station has taken longer than anticipated. Therefore, we are still unable to give an exact date for the closing of the present transfer station.

Please watch for our announcement about when the facility will be closed. During that period, waste collection will be handled at the town garage. We ask that during that time you hold on to as many recyclables as possible. They can then be disposed of in the new facility at the end of construction. We will keep you posted.

Composting Bins: A new batch of composting bins have been granted to our town.

Why compost?

Composting offers numerous benefits. It reduces town costs by diverting perfectly good compostable materials from filling up the landfill. Every trip to a landfill costs money, and there are tipping fees on top of that.

It is estimated that 30% of the household waste stream is made up of food and yard waste. Composting diverts this potentially valuable "black gold" from the waste stream and puts it to work enriching the place where it originates.

Also, organic materials turn nasty when dumped in a landfill. They can create explosive methane gas and acids that react with other nasty landfill goodies to create a toxic leachate which is a ground water contaminate. No good stuff, that.

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And the whole business of composting itself is just plain fun. It's a great feeling to watch your vegetables and yard wastes turn into black gold.

Our adjustable bins are called the New Age Composter; you can make the bin smaller or larger—up to 24 square feet. They are made of 100% recycled plastic from Massachussetts plastic recycling programs. They have unique top and bottom cones which virtually eliminate the need for turning. The bottom cone brings up air and the top cone holds in moisture. Metal stakes, which are included, secure it to the ground. They are rodent resistan, durable, UV resistant, and have a lifetime warranty.

For information on how to get one of these composting bins, call Joyce Scheffey at 528-0550.

— Joyce Scheffey

Lake Garfield Association

On June 26 there will be election of officers. The Nominating Committee will present the following slate:

Judy Bach, President
Jana Shepard, Vice President
Carlo Romairone, Treasurer
Susan Schmerler, Secretary

There will be an opportunity to make nominations from the floor.

We have received a wonderful response to our appeal for support. On June 26 Carlo Romairone will make a report on memberships and the weevil fund for weed control. Money is an essential, but we are even more grateful to the people who have offered themselves as volunteers.

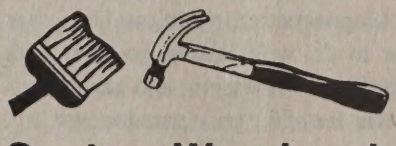
We need more people to organize a lake activity, such as a boat excursion. With additional help, we can also plan a fund raising activity for the control of weeds.

Please telephone Jana Shepard at 528-2373 for more information. Checks for the weevil fund and for family memberships should be made out to the Lake Garfield Association and mailed to P.O. Box 7, Monterey, MA 01245.

Our 1999 meetings will all be held at 10 a.m. on fourth Saturdays at the Firehouse. The dates are June 26, July 24, August 28.

I look forward to seeing you.

— Jana Shepard, Vice President



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History of Lake Garfield Association

Several new members have asked about the history of the Association. Dean Amidon, our first president, has responded with the following information:

The Lake Garfield Association was formed about 1969 when the old dam at the beach was declared unsafe and the lake was pumped down by the Army Corps of Engineers.

There were severe leaking and boiling showing up on the west side of the lake. A decision was made to build a new dam. Paul Carnese was the prime mover in forming the Lake Garfield Association in order to expedite the process. The lake was down for at least two summers and wasn't a very attractive body of water. The town worked diligently to lobby the legislature in Boston to appropriate funds for a new dam, and eventually $360,000 was appropriated. The designer was chosen by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works, and Robert Brown Associates proceeded with the design. Several locations were studied, including the old dam. The final decision was downstream near the Beartown Road. The Massachusetts Department of Public Works, responsible also for the construction, selected Petricca Construction Company of Pittsfield, the low bidder, to construct the dam. It was completed in 1971. Tyringham Road was relocated, removing a bad curve and making it a westerly straight-line highway. This also increased the area of beach available to the town. A new pond (Brewer Pond) was formed between the old dam and the new one. This ten-acre pond is totally surrounded by land purchased by the town, and access is now available to all. A private home between the old and new Tyringham Roads was removed because of the construction, and an adjacent water supply for several buildings was destroyed. A great new well driven on the Sommers property (as it was then known) replaced this and now supplies buildings at the southwest corner of the small part of the lake.

The Lake Garfield Association worked from beginning to end to make sure the project was fast tracked in order to have their beautiful lake back as soon as possible. The primary concern of the Lake Garfield Association since then has been to maintain the quality of the lake and to manage the potential weed problems. With the help of the town, they have been very successful in doing this and preserving our great asset.

After providing strong leadership during a crucial time, Dean Amidon submitted his resignation in 1990. From 1990 to 1992, Barbara Resnick was the president, with Muriel Lazzarini as vice-president. From 1992 to 1996, Muriel Lazzarini served as president and Marty Cherneff vice-president. From 1996 to 1998, the president was David Quisenberry, with Jana Shepard as vice-president.

— Jana Shepard

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Early arrivals at town beach

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Bulky Waste Days

Bulky waste will be accepted at the Monterey Transfer Station during regular hours on July 7, July 10, and July 11.

This is the chance to clean out the old junk from the garage, the attic, the basement, and all the other nooks and crannies in your house.

Items accepted in bulky waste container: Furniture, mattresses, rugs, televisions, old household items such as vacuum cleaners, toasters, window frames, screens, old doors, small bits and pieces left over from do-it-yourself household projects, etc.

Items not accepted in bulky waste container: Demolition debris, recyclable metals and white goods (pots & pans, old flatware, fridges, stove ranges, etc.—put these items in metals container, which is available year round at Transfer Station) toxic materials (pesticides, chemicals, oil, etc.). Save these items for the Hazardous Waste Collection Day later this year. Leaves and yard waste: compost these items—see related article on p. 8.

Senator Says

Many folks are unaware that there is more than one state program to help communities and homeowners comply with Title V standards for septic systems. The Homeowner Septic Repair Loan Program is available to qualified individual households through local banks. This program provides subsidized loans (from 0% to 5%) for septic repairs at owner-occupied dwellings. Eligibility is based on income qualifications.

The second often-overlooked program is a Community Septic Management Program (CSMP). This program is available to municipalities. Although most towns in this area considered this program when it was announced in 1996, misunderstandings about the program rules led a number of municipalities to decline the opportunity to participate. If your town has not signed up for CSMP, it might be worth taking a fresh look. Here are a few facts about the program:

The funds are loaned from the state to the community at an effective rate of 0%. The community then loans the money at 5% to homeowners. The difference in the interest rate compensates the town for administrative costs incurred by the program.

Loans are paid back as a betterment over a period of up to twenty years.

The community does not have to make an appropriation from the tax levy in order to participate. The repayment obligation is undertaken by the homeowners receiving the loans.

If a participating homeowner defaults on his/her payment, the community has a municipal lien on the property.

The loan is not considered a lien unless a default occurs. Transfers of property can proceed and, in fact, the loan can be assumed by the next owner.

Loans under this program are not based on household income, so the Town would not be put in a position of reviewing residents' financial information.

Loans may be made for vacation homes or non-owner-occupied dwellings.

If the community identifies an environmentally sensitive area where it wishes to focus the loan funds, participation by homeowners in the area is <u>not</u> mandatory.

If a resident's septic system has been declared an imminent health hazard, that resident can be given priority for assistance.

If you would like more information about how your town can take advantage of this program, contact Jane Pierce at the DEP Western Regional Office in Springfield (413) 784-1100 x2153, or call my district office in Pittsfield 442-6810.

— Senator Andrea F. Nuciforo, Jr.

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RepRap

Celebrating Gould Farm

As Gould Farm celebrates its 85th anniversary we acknowledge and appreciate what it has done to help people with mental illness enter the community and grow and bloom.

Gould Farm is recognized as a leader in the mental health field for its unique approach to therapeutic services. The rehabilitation process comes through a variety of activities ranging from farm work to caring for animals to rebuilding the barn. The success of the Roadside Store and Gould Farm Products illustrates how guests have come to share in the responsibility of sustaining the Gould Farm community and the ability to meaningfully contribute to a process. The work of the guests greatly matters to Gould Farm and to each guest's own rehabilitation. It also indicates the importance of supporting the family farm, which unfortunately has become a dying breed.

I read with great interest The Gould Farm News which I recently received. The newsletter contained first person accounts of life on the Farm. People arrive with a sense of isolation and uselessness. After living and working on the Farm guests accumulate many skills and experience friendships that will last a lifetime. Then guests go on to find work with small, family businesses in eastern Massachusetts that have developed an association with Gould Farm. The open-minded attitude of these employers embraces the mission of Gould Farm; that a truly productive society will include people of all needs.

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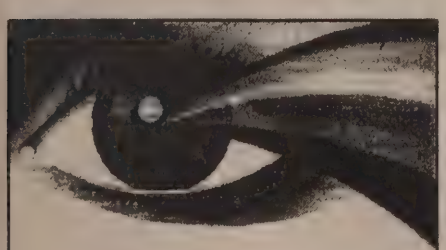
Monterey Little League cranks up

As an internationally recognized facility, Gould Farm stands as a model for community-based rehabilitation based on the principles of respectful discipline, wholesome work and unstinting kindness. When people think of the Berkshires what immediately comes to mind is the cultural activities and beautiful open spaces we have come to enjoy. What we also need to remember is that through Gould Farm and places like it, we help people participate in a wider community and feel a sense of belonging. We are fortunate to have them in our backyard. Congratulations to Gould Farm on its 85th anniversary!

As always, if you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my full-time district office at 243-0289.

— Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins



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Being too late to save the day,
the sun already
half a ball of red
on the sea's
perfect horizon,
all hope focuses
on the promise
of a green flash.

— Peter Shepley

Ignis Mysticus

It is as if the truth
of flames
were written in an arab alphabet of fire
and so to read
is to be consumed

I fall blinded and burned
to my knees in tears
grope seeking about the earth
and She has mercy —
I find myself reading a braille of moss and
small flowers
cool and sweet
and they spell out the same truth —

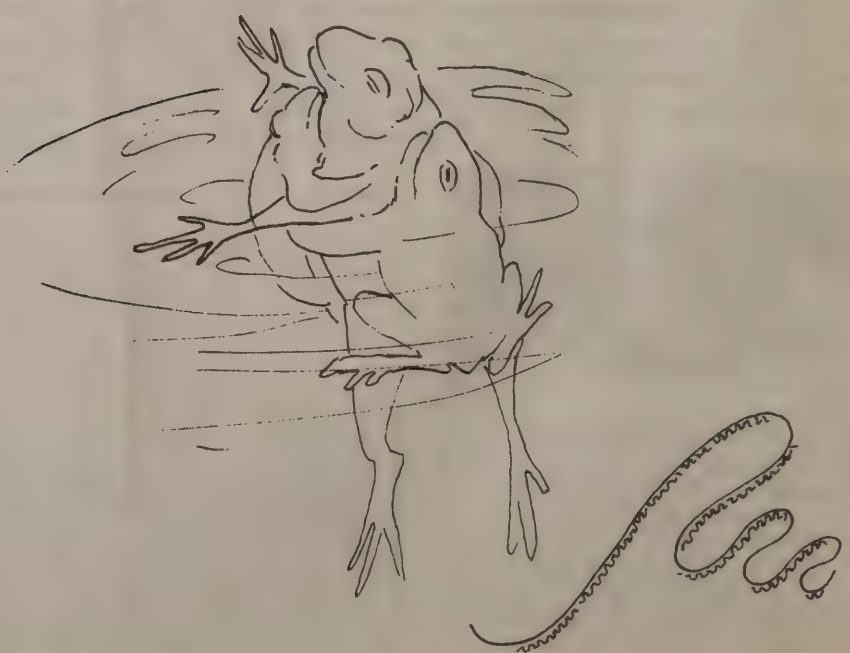
when I think upon it
indeed
how could it be otherwise?

— A. O. Howell

Death Row

As I wait in line
I felt a little breeze,
but when I look to see;
nothing.

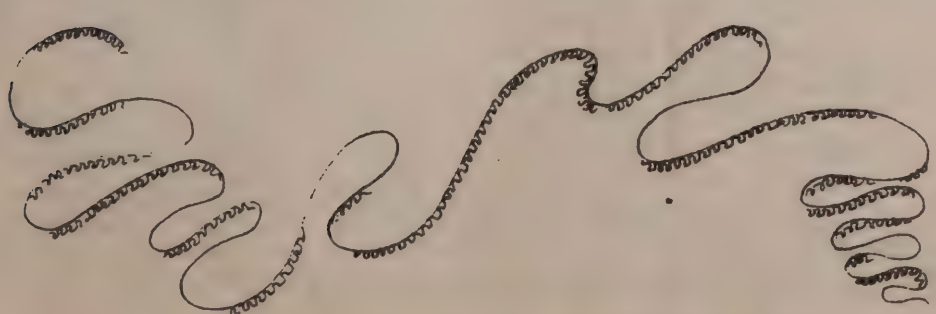
— Peter Shepley



Happy Birthday

how is it that a day makes a difference?
it doesn't ... and yet ...
last night, the cold sky was jeweled in stars
above the black curve of the moonless hill
this morning, serpents of mist from the pond
rose to kiss the bright and rising sun
yesterday we read the news
of the high school shooting
speculating the insanity of a boy
and the denial of a spoiled culture
you are 20 years old today
she is 42
you could have it all tonight
while the dawn greets your home in flames
down to ground
in memorium
with all the war's
lost and brave
how old was Job when
the winds began to shift?
there's no point to paranoia
but intuition smells the potholes
and avoids the smashing trees
though blessed, we walk on thin ice:
the dull knife cuts its master
the drowsy wheel slides off the road
wide awake, with nothing, now
all directions beckon
with all your books and poems ashes
what words will you commit to first?
remember how you came this way,
naked and unlisted?
and how you'll leave again some day
without a stitch or sterling?
yesterday we washed the car
today it's covered in the ashes
of our friend's piano
the luminous goldfinch flies over the garden
over the roses and over the cellar
where the house just stood
over the cafeteria
of the slain and blood stained
over the parade of weapons
and wars
(for freedom?)
over your birthday candles
how is it that a day makes a difference?
breathing deep the fleeting lilacs
imagining the diva emerging
effusive from the flames
roasting marsmallows with the jester
melting all the guns and TV sets
sprouting vigorous as pine cones
(forest's charred and ravaged floor)
raising the ruby glass to poetic life
blowing out your candles and
making the wish for peace

— R. Zukowski
for Scott, Susan, Phil, Sugar,
Amanda, Brook, Lily
and the whole forest



A Memorial Day for Captain Konkapot

John Konkapot was a Mahican chief who lived in the southern Berkshires during the first half of the eighteenth century. At the time of his birth, as far as the eye could see, or as far as a man could walk in one day, it was the wilderness domain of tribes explorers came to call "the river nations."

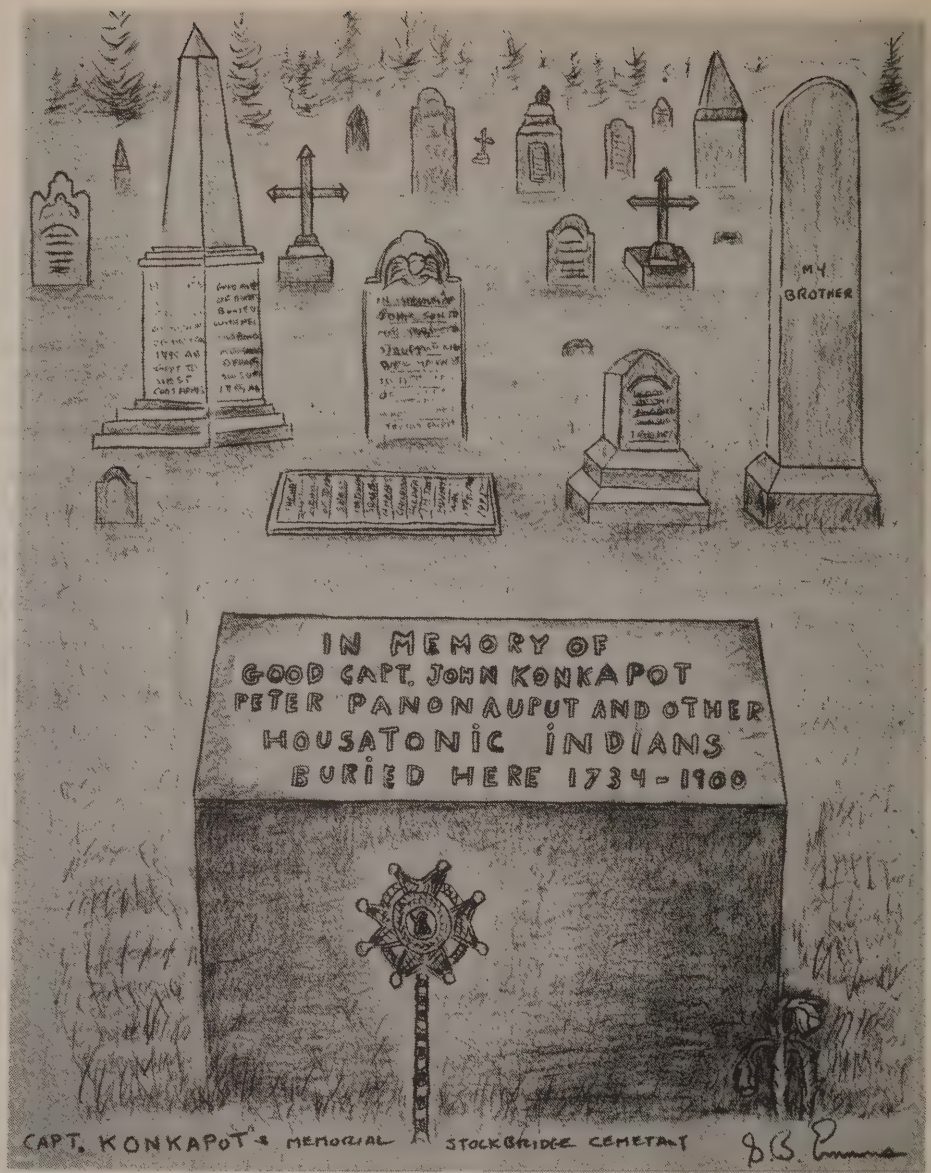
When Konkapot looked back on his lifetime as an old man, he could see his own hand in the sale and demise of tribal lands that diminished his ancestral heritage and would soon carry his people away helpless on a current of profound social, cultural, and spiritual change.

In the end he became an exemplary figurehead for his people in this transition, so respected by the European colonists as to be commissioned as an officer in the militia, rising to the rank of captain. Before he died, he had led a temperate life, and had been converted to Christianity.

Today the river that bears his name drains out of Brewer Pond, which in turn fills up every spring out of Lake Garfield. From these headwaters it briefly flows back in time to wander through the woods where moccasin feet were free to follow trails of their own imprint, until in less than a mile it finds itself in the center of Monterey, not long before the end of the twentieth century.

After gliding close by the Town Hall, the Konkapot ducks under Main Road bridge, then runs up against the steep bank that arcs the flow around the Post Office and past the back of the Monterey General Store. There the waters deepen before the barrier of the old dam, perhaps to reflect upon another day, when Brewer's sawmill harnessed the flood in 1739 to cut the timber for the first buildings in town, some of which still stand in testimony to their rugged frames.

For this to happen, all the land for miles around had long since been slipping through the fingers of Native American leaders. In the year of 1728 alone, Chief Konkapot himself put his mark on a bill of sale for 90 additional square miles, in return for some 375 crowns, 20 quarts of rum, and 3 barrels of cider.



Now that this is water over the dam, on this Memorial Day the heart of this old town is beating with a surge of restoration and renovation. Its main artery is a clean river through the center, proving in its appearance that building preservation and good conservation go together.

A mile further downstream, the Konkapot joins Rawson Brook at a secluded natural point of land near Diane's Bridge; a bench is provided for one to sit and enjoy the confluence, where the beauty of the Gould Farm wetlands may always retain the muse of a native spirit.

After drifting through the sleepy meadows of Hartsville, and roiling through the rocky ravines of Mill River, the Konkapot meets the Umpachene River at a spectacular falls by the same name. Umpachene was also a Mahican chief, and a contemporary of Konkapot as they both adapted to the inevitable passing of their old ways.

As both men gradually lost or sold everything that anyone else would take or pay for, they were converted to a Christian life by the eminent missionary John Sergeant. In 1735, Sergeant took both men on a two-day tour of his alma mater, the Divinity School at Yale University.

"Time like a never ending stream bears all its sons away", and 15 miles from its origin, the Konkapot ends, and loses its identity in the Housatonic at Ashley Falls. After losing his wife, Mary, to tuberculosis, John Konkapot died in 1766.

Unlike other Indians buried at the outskirts of town, Konkapot's tombstone has a place of honor in the Stockbridge Cemetery, a few yards from that of John Sergeant. As his name appears with a common epitaph for other Indians, I would take poetic license to surmise what he himself might now choose as words to be remembered by:

If on this Memorial Day
solemn thoughts come to mind
think not of Indians buried here
as spirits of a lesser kind

Just as John Sergeant lies nearby
with our brothers from across the sea
you can see he has kindly provided
a proper resting place for me

We too were blessed with holy water
each baptized with a Christian name
as children of the creator
he loves us all the same

So if water can be held sacred
no less than our burial ground
you must honor our rivers
as we left them to be found

— George Emmons

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About Astrology ...

Notes On Gemini

Language, youth and duality are at the fore when the Sun moves into the sign of Gemini (May 21–June 20). Most Gemini folk stay playful well into advanced age. In the body, Gemini refers most especially to the shoulders, arms, and hands.

Mercury, the planet sometimes called the Trickster, has a special and strong relationship with Gemini, where Mercury's legendary craftiness can express itself as a delight in the practical handcrafts and the intricacies of language, or as, well, in craftiness and stealth. The duality dilemma also shows in whether Gemini's childlike quality manifests as lifelong enthusiasm and vitality, or simply as immaturity. Happily, the Gemini-infuenced are, like everyone else, never compelled by any astrological predisposition or transit, but always have access to free will, that potent, Gemini-friendly, ability to choose among options.

Fueled by curiosity, the roots and meanings of words provide the Gemini-influenced with a lifetime of amusement. In Latin, *gemini* (singular, *geminus*) means twins; it's from a root meaning "to double, to grow in pairs." Sure enough, June is the month with the highest statistical incidence of twin births.

Long ago, when I was an art teacher on Long Island (bear with me; Gemini is also fascinated by biography, is a gregarious teller of folk tales, and often interrupts a story with an aside.), one of the kindergarten classes delivered a special bonus: contact with Peter, Paul, and Stephen, triplets so identical in behavior, speech, and appearance that even their parents confessed to being occasionally unable to tell who was who.

The Universe also tossed in a pair of typically Mercurial twists. I only saw them in class once a week, for twenty minutes. And all three were color blind, so I couldn't even say, "You, young Mr. Smith in the blue shirt ..."

I came up with what I thought was a pretty good initial strategy. I'd move to where Peter, Paul, and Stephen were all in my range of vision, call one name, and continue conversation with the triplet who responded. A few minutes later, I'd repeat the sketch with his siblings and one of the two remaining names. Then communication with each of the three little boys would fit seamlessly into the rest of the session. Eventually, we established enough of a relationship to discuss how silly it was that we adults couldn't tell them apart. After all, it was perfectly clear to them who was who! They shook their heads, and with a meaningful glance among themselves, just smiled with wry amusement at the obvious perceptual handicaps of the adults around them.

Of course, the triplets could afford their lighthearted tolerance of the rest of us. Like the astrological twins, Peter, Paul, and Stephen were already a committed and well-balanced partnership, looking at harmony from the inside out. Maybe that's the lesson the rest of us can learn from Gemini.

— MaryKate Jordan

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Fire on the Mountain

At 6:00 a.m. this mid-May morning the thermometer says 39 degrees. I decide to wear a jacket, put on my leather boots, grab the dog-leash, and step out into the cool soft promise. By the time I finish the dog obedience routine, reach the end of the driveway, and pocket the leash, I know I could have left the jacket home. Ruby is across the road, racing through the State Forest, her lessons over for the day. I am stretching my legs, too, heading quickly for a place I have visited nearly every morning for the past month.

My boots leak. I brush them clean and replenish their dubbing religiously, but after ten minutes of striding through the dewy ferns and hellebores my toes are already griping about damp. "Spring for Gore-tex," say my toes. I distance myself from my toes. Last month we had the driest April since 1826, said one radio report. Damp was not an element then on my morning scrambles with Ruby. With the trees still bare, the woods were bright, the dry leaves like tinder. A fluke lightning strike hit Hunger Mountain one night while we were away, and the next time I headed up the cobble I could smell charred wood. I locked up my old familiar trail, a path that had not changed much in appearance in the last forty years, and was amazed to see that just ahead, at the old charcoal burner's site, the woods floor had turned black. Beyond this, and up the ridge toward the cobble, the laurels had turned brown. It took me a few seconds to get it that there had been a fire here since the last time I'd walked this way, which was only about two weeks before.

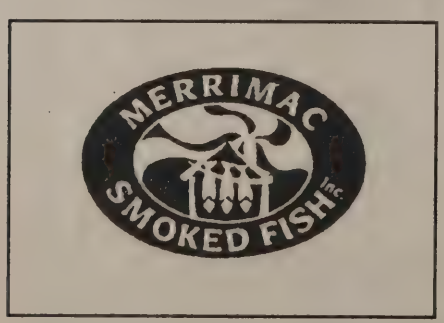
My heart was racing, I think. This thing was big in the way that fire is always big and change in a familiar place is big. What to do? I began scouting the edges of the burn, trying to put the story together for myself, to imagine what it had been like here as the fire moved. At first I thought this was a smallish fire, maybe about the size of our garden and orchard, an acre or so. I came to the top of a ridge and the black ended. I skirted the edge then and found it went around a corner and ballooned out again. It fanned downhill farther than I'd realized, and at one place it narrowed and then flared for no apparent reason, in terms of incline or fuel.

Nowhere did the Hunger Mountain fire crown, or reach the treetops. In fact, the laurels are not much burned either, just killed by heat, or at least the evergreen leaves of 1998 are killed. As I bushwhacked through the laurels I got many small charcoal marks across my jeans so I looked like one of those artists or housepainters who wears the spatterings of her profession proudly on her clothes.

Though it did not crown in the hemlocks and birches, the fire did stop and burn hot at the bases of many living trees. I can tell by the amount of black and ash and damage to the trunks. There is one place where the fire raced along and came to a paper birch, lying on the ground. Birchbark is full of oil, making it both waterproof and flammable. The fire ran along the trunk the way Ruby likes to do, but when it came to the end it just stopped, having run out of easy tinder.

Exploring this fire makes me remember our last two visits to Yellowstone National Park, after the 1988 fires there. Since 1972, Yellowstone has had a "let it burn" policy on backcountry fires of natural origins (lightning). Ecologists have come to understand that fire is a healthy and natural part of the life of the forest and that all the years of fire suppression and the admonishments of Smokey the Bear have been misguided and dangerous. Fire ecologists figure that a normal burn clears out deadwood, which would otherwise build up until a lightning strike or a carelessly dropped match could result in an unnaturally devastating fire. Also there are many kinds of plants and animals that depend directly or indirectly upon the effects of fire for a healthy life.

In Yellowstone, lodgepole pines won't open their cones and germinate new seeds without the heat of a fire. Large mammals like elk and bison move away from fires, even big ones like those of 1988, and do not suffer much loss of population. Their browse and grazing are improved by fire, and so are the berry crops which are important for many animals from birds to bears. Standing lodge-



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pole spars after a fire get invaded by insect borers of various kinds which make good hunting for woodpeckers. The beneficial effects of fire are not immediately apparent and some are subtle and indirect. In 1988 most of America damned

"Like a Phoenix," a lady's slipper rises from the recent Hunger Mountain burn.

the Park Service for its fire policy, even though 30,000 firefighters from 39 states fought the fires and saved viliages and historic buildings and sites; 2,500 soldiers were called in also and farmers from Idaho came with their irrigation equipment to help keep the fires away from human habitations. During that dry, hot summer, 3.6 million acres burned in the western states. This is an area larger than the state of Connecticut. In Yellowstone 1.2 million acres burned, and amazingly only one human life was lost, when a tree fell on one of the firefighters.

Aerial photos show that the fires moved in an erratic or "mosaic" pattern in Yellowstone. I see the same thing in the burn on the cobble. There is one place where a trail up to the summit acted as a firebreak. It's not a wide trail and it's full of dry leaves, but they are broken and stomped down, compared with the fluffy leaves on either side. All along this trail the blackened ground comes right to the edge and does not leap across. I am wondering if the wind that night was in the opposite direction, or was still.

Like the Yellowstone scientists in the years since 1988, I am watching this burn every day with interest. Already the laurels are sending out sprigs of green beyond the dead leaves. Painted trilliums have popped up through the charred leaves. The birches have leafed out overhead and the burn is shady now, holding the dew, wetting my boots, letting off its sharp smell of fire and rebirth. Around the shoulder of the cobble, past the path that acted as a firebreak, is the deadfall from the 1997 tornado. This little mountain has felt the effects of both wind and fire these last two years. If the fire had jumped the path and circled around a few hundred feet to the deadfall, it would have found serious fuel for its engine. It would have taken the third element, water, to put it out, but we didn't get water here until the first week of May. I tell my toes there is something right and reassuring about damp in New England in the spring.

— Bonner J. McAllester

Goldfarb Sculpture Exhibits

Monterey artist Al Goldfarb will be exhibiting sculptures in two season-long exhibitions this summer. At the Santarella Museum and Gardens in Tyringham the show opens Saturday, May 29. At the Williamsville Inn Sculpture Garden, the show opens Sunday May 30.

Monterey Nature Hikes

Bonner McAllester will lead nature hikes on Thursday mornings in July, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. For details please check the *Monterey News* calendar or call Bonner at 528-9385.

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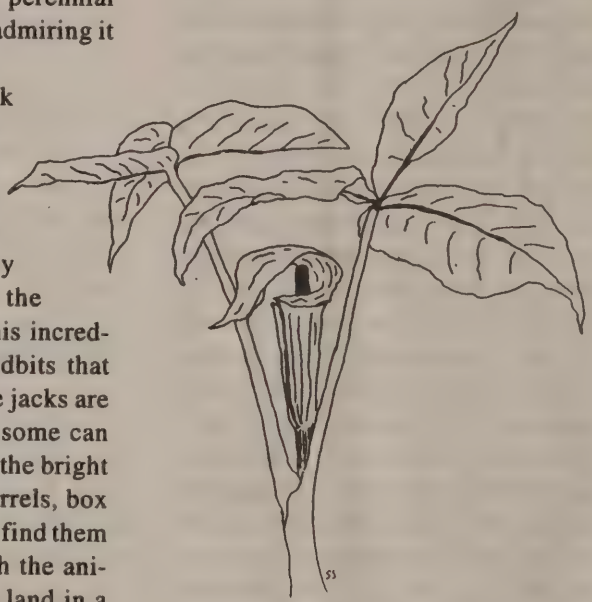
Spadix-in-the-Spathe

I have been fascinated by jack-in-the-pulpit plants since I was a kid. There was one growing in a moist shaded spot near the foundation of my childhood house; I remember looking for it each spring like an old friend. When we first cleared land here at Rawson Brook Farm and began gardening, jack-in-the-pulpits were "weeds" in the sweet corn the first year. About six years ago, a beautiful jack appeared in my perennial flower bed, and I have been admiring it daily for a week or so now.

There is a wonderful book at the Monterey Library entitled *Jack-in-the-Pulpit* by Jerome Wexler. It is a thin volume in the youth section (YN 584 Wexler) with lovely photographs. It describes the structure and life cycle of this incredible plant. Here are some tidbits that continue to delight me. Some jacks are male, some are female, and some can be a little of both. In the fall, the bright red berries attract birds, squirrels, box turtles, and other critters who find them tasty. The seeds pass through the animals undigested, and if they land in a suitable location, they will sprout the next spring. The first year the seedling has only one small leaf. The next two seasons the plant will consist of a single compound leaf with three leaflets; it won't be until the fourth year that a jack-in-the-pulpit will appear. Of course there is all this other interesting stuff happening underground during those four years, but you'll have to get the book out of the library to find out more.

— Susan Sellew



Moose in Sandisfield

We've had tracks reported, not long ago, but actual moose sightings continue to be rare in this part of New England. This largest member of the deer family is also shy and keeps to swampy areas where people rarely go.

But now we have had an educational sighting that was as spectacular as the animal itself. Carlene Blaff, who drives a bus for the Sandisfield schools, was going along Route 57 with fifteen children aboard when a full-grown moose crossed the road in plain sight. She stopped the bus and everybody saw the animal, most of them for the first time in their lives. They learned what a moose is and enjoyed a special moment as the great animal proceeded around a nearby house and off into the woods.

— David P. McAllester

MONTEREY
A LOCAL HISTORY

Edited by Peter Murkett, Ian Jenkins, & Kim Hines

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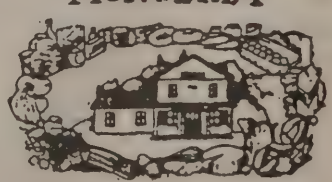

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Magic Carpet Ride: The McAllesters' Wyman Rug

Once I used to wonder where to find a rug with the ability to lift me up and carry me to another place, time, or dimension. Now that I'm happy right here in the present, I've located that magic carpet. It's on the living room floor in David and Beryl McAllester's home.

The rug was created by Lee and Paula Wyman. Both well-travelled and irrepressible collectors, their house became a museum of art work they brought home from their travels. Gifted craftspeople, they discovered that if a favorite artifact was unavailable for sale, they could often reproduce it themselves.

Using bold colors for the figures and a blend of neutrals for the background—taupe, seafoam, grays, beiges, ivory—Paula stitched the Wyman Round-the-World Rug with wool yarn in 1967. A glance at its underside suggests that the rug is hooked, rather than yarn-sewn or shirred. She worked from patterns Lee made of thirty-five of their favorite works of art. The choices generated much planning and discussion between them.

After his retirement from practice as a researcher in and professor of biology, Lee turned his attention and talents to the study of Navajo spirituality. The large central image in the rug is of two figures, Night Sky and Fertile Earth, from a sand painting central to the Shooting Way Ceremony. One of the great spiritual rituals of the Navajo, the ceremony is designed to generate healing, and is frequently used for those whose experiences indicate that they are out of harmony with aspects of being represented by thunder, floods, lightning, fish, snakes, or the essential element water. Recognized even in the skeptical Western medical world, psychiatrists have written about the power of Navajo ritual healing.

The bold, dancing border of the rug is black against the neutral ground. Its elements are made of various styles of calligraphy. Lee and Paula's connection with calligraphy includes what is known in archeological circles as the Wyman Fragment, a scrap of vellum Lee found in a bazaar in Cairo. Purchased for $5, it was later documented as a fragment of the Epistle to the Romans dating from between 325–375 C.E. The oldest extant piece of the New Testament, it altered previous interpretations of the text and was auctioned at Sotheby's in London for the equivalent of $175,000.

The calligraphy edging the carpet is, while heartfelt, less lofty. According to David, most of the words around the rug's perimeter translate as "Lee and Paula" in a variety of languages.

The Wyman Rug is a jubilant celebration of beauty, heartwarming as a party. It's a celebration of friendship as well. David first wrote to Leland Wyman in 1957, to ask for his help in making contact with the Navajo people who became so important to David's work in ethnomusicology. Wyman's supportive response gave rise to David's gift in 1958 of sketches Lee didn't yet have of sand paintings made during Shooting Way ceremonies David had access to because he was collecting the music. Their friendship, growing for more than 40 years, lasted until Professor Wyman's death.

The rug came into David's hands before that time, however. After Paula Wyman's death in 1980, Lee said that she had suggested that the rug go to David, so the Wyman Rug came home to Monterey. David's favorite section is the image of Ajax and Achilles playing Chess (see photo).

— MaryKate Jordan

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Weekends best — Leave message

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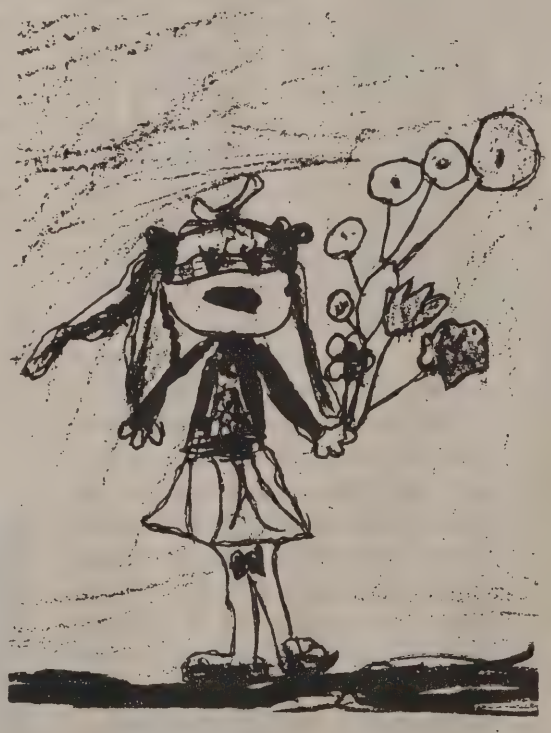

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Personal Notes

By the time you read this, Memorial Day will already have gone by with its parade and picnics. I hope all of you had a wonderful day, and got the summer off to a good start.

During the winter my filing system was not as efficient as it should have been, and so I have a couple of belated birthday greetings to send out. **Tina Jenssen** had her birthday on April 5, and **Scott Jenssen** had his on April 9. A belated Happy Birthday to both of you, and I'll try to get it right next year.

Happy Birthday on June 8 to **Todd Bynack**, on June 13 to **Kay Pratt**, on June 14 to **Nicole Andrus**, on June 16 to **Michael Bynack** and **John Higgins**, on June 18 to **Sandy Gottlieb**, on June 19 to **Christopher Blair** and **Pam Gauthier**, on June 23 to **Jane Thorn**, on June 28 to **Eileen Clawson** and **Colm Higgins**, and on June 30 to **Grace Mendel**.

Anniversary wishes go out on June 18 to **Dean** and **Fran Amidon**, on June 21 to **Sandy** and **Rita Gottlieb**, on June 23 to **Kyle** and **Phoebe Wing**, on June 26 to **Dan** and **Betsy Andrus**, and on June 29 to **Terry** and **Joan Wing**.

The Monument Mountain third quarter Honor Roll includes several Monterey names. High Honors were earned in Grade 10 by **Maggie Clawson** and **Mariah Rutherford-Olds**, and Honors were earned in Grade 10 by **Lauren Goldfinger** and **James Hall**. Well done, all of you!

And special congratulations and a "Well done!" to Susan Bronson and John Sellew on the birth of twin daughters,

Isabelle Claire and Julia Rose, on May 16. Welcome, pilgrims.

We enjoy hearing your news, and passing on birthday and anniversary greetings. If you have any you would like to share, please drop me a line at P.O. Box 351, Monterey, MA 01245, before the twelfth of each month. Thank you so much.

— Ann Higgins

Transfer Station Stickers

Stickers for the use of the Monterey Transfer Station will expire on June 30, 1999. Vehicles without valid stickers will not be permitted to deposit waste at the Transfer Station.

Application forms for sticker renewals are being mailed to all Monterey residents who purchased a sticker in the past fiscal year. Application forms are also available at the Town Offices Monday through Friday and during Town Clerk office hours every Saturday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Completed applications should be mailed to P.O. Box 308, Monterey, MA 01245, or deposited in the Transfer Station box in the Town Offices vestibule.

If you have any questions about mandatory recycling or use of the Town's Transfer Station, please call the Town Offices at 528-1443.

© WAYNE DUNLOP

Monterey bridges: bridge over Swann Brook on Brett Road (track)

Calendar

Swim America will be offering swimming lessons at Lake Garfield this summer. For more information, call Bill Meier at 528-6619.

Tuesday, June 15, Blood pressure clinic, 9–10:30 a.m. in basement of Town Offices, administered by Visiting Nurses Association.

Saturday, June 19

Changes in the Landscape, at The Bidwell House, 100 Art School Road, Monterey: A walking tour on the museum property to learn what the woods reveal about the history of the Berkshires (see also p. 5). Free. Information 528-6888.

Vicki True sings gospel music at 7:00 p.m. at Sandisfield Arts Center, Hammerstein Rd., off Rt. 57 in Sandisfield. Information 258-4904.

Monday, June 21, La Leche League, 10:30–noon at Guthrie Center, Great Barrington. Free advice and support for breastfeeding. Information and directions, Maureen at 528-6619.

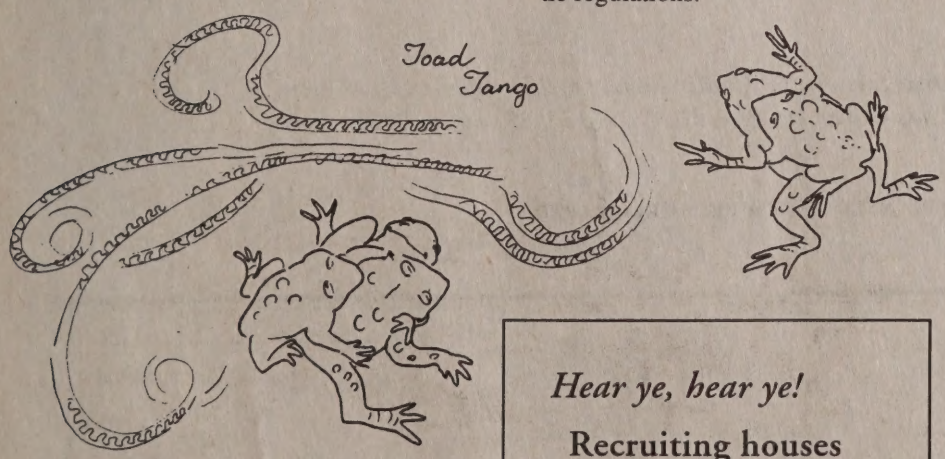
Saturday, June 26

Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m. at the Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield, Mass. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Peter Stix. All dances are taught, and beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments at intermission. Adults $5, children $2. Information 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

Colonial Encampment, 11:00 to 4:00 at The Bidwell House Museum, Art School Rd., Monterey: Reenactment of camp life during the American Revolution, featuring authentic clothing, accoutrements, weapons, camp gear, frontier cooking demonstration, and battle skirmishes (see also p. 5). Adults $5, children $1. Information 528-6888.

Sunday, June 27, *Colonial Encampment* continues at Bidwell House, 11:00 to 3:00.

Monday, June 28, Public hearing, 7:30 p.m. at Town Offices. The Board of Health will receive public comment on proposed Environmental Tobacco Smoke Regulations and proposed clarification of existing well and septic regulations.



The Observer
April 25—May 25

High temp. (5/22)	80.1°
Low temp. (4/29)	29.1°
Avg. high temp.	67.2°
Avg. low temp.	42.3°
Avg. temp.	54.8°
High bar. press. (5/1)	30.33"
Low bar. press. (5/24)	29.43"
High wind gust (4/26)	31 mph.
Wind chilled low temp. (4/24)	5°
Total rainfall	5.53"

Precipitation occurred on 10 days

***

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Contributions from local artists this month: Caitlin Lally, pp. 2, 6; Bonner McAllester, p. 17; Sarah Olds, p. 20; Glynis Oliver, pp. 2, 7, 10, 12, 17, 22, 23; Susan Sellew, p. 18.

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